

FAQ for 10,000 Trees for Charleston

1. Q: What is 10,000 Trees for Charleston?

A: 10,000 Trees is a group of volunteers committed to the planting of 10,000 new trees in Charleston, SC. Volunteers work with the City of Charleston, Town of James Island, and the Charleston Horticultural Society to fulfill this worthy and ambitious goal.

2. Q: Why is this project so important?

A: Trees enhance the livability, health, and beauty of our community. Trees improve air quality, increase property value, lower CO2 levels, absorb storm water, and lower electric bills. As Charleston continues to grow and develop, the natural environment is impacted. Planting 10,000 new trees in urban and suburban parts of our city will be advantageous to all life inhabiting the City.

3. Q: How is this project funded?

A: 10,000 Trees is funded entirely through individual, family, and corporate donations. The 10,000 Trees committee is working diligently to fundraise money and spread awareness of the importance of this project.

4. Q: How can I donate to the cause?

A: Donating is easy! You can mail a check, made out to The Charleston Horticultural Society to 823 Meeting Street Charleston, SC 29403. Please add ATTN: 10K Trees to memo line. Donations are tax-deductible. \$375 secures the planting of one tree. A donation of any size helps with program support and tree maintenance. Donations of all sizes are appreciated and accepted. Please contact Jennifer Scales at scalesj@charleston-sc.gov for more information.

5. Q: What are the costs involved in planting of a tree?

A: The planting of one street tree costs approximately \$375. This includes plans for SCDOT encroachment permits on public right of ways, the tree, and tree maintenance. The City's urban forestry department works diligently to ensure the right tree is planted in the right location.

6. Q: If I sponsor a tree, can I donate it in honor or memory of someone?

A: Absolutely. We encourage tree sponsors to donate in honor or memory of a friend, family member, or community member. Naming a tree in honor of a grandchild, parent, or other loved one, is a special gift that continues to give for generations to come.

7. Q: When sponsoring a tree, can I pick its type? Can I pick its location?

A: We have a right tree, right place approach. We work with certified arborists to ensure tree survival and maintenance concerns, and in lieu of this we cannot guarantee a specific species at a specific location. If you would like a specific tree, *or* a specific location, we can more likely accommodate your selection.

8. Q: I can't afford to donate money, but I can donate my time. How can I help?

A: Become a committee member! We would love to have you. Read on below.

9. Q: What are the roles of committee members?

A: Committee members meet on the third Tuesday of the month at 4pm to share updates, ideas, and upcoming goals. Committee members are responsible for fundraising, helping locate areas in need of trees along major corridors, and helping to raise awareness of the importance of trees in our community.

10. Q: How can I become a committee member?

A: If you are interested in assisting on the 10,000 Trees commission and serving on a corridor. Please contact Jennifer Scales at scalesj@charleston-sc.gov.

11. Q: Are other cities engaged in similar projects?

A: Hundreds of cities around the country, both large and small, currently have tree planting programs to enhance the livability, health, and beauty of their surrounding areas. Major cities, like New York which has a Million Trees NYC project seeking to plant one million new trees in NYC, are setting the example for the importance of urban tree plantings.

12. Q: Can a tree that I plant on my own property count toward the 10,000 new trees in Charleston goal?

A: Yes! If you would like to plant a tree on your property, whether it be a business property or residence, we would love for you to contact us. We will add it to the count!

Additionally, 10,000 Trees received free Live Oak donations specifically for private properties. If you are interested in requesting a live oak for adoption please contact Jennifer Scales at scalesj@charleston-sc.gov.

Check out SCE&G's guide to planting a tree on your property:

<http://www.sceg.com/en/residential-services/tree-trimming-right-of-way/landscaping-tips/>

13. Q: What species of free trees are available for property owners?

A: Currently, we have Live Oaks (*Quercus virginiana*) available for adoption.

14. Q: Why are the trees free?

A: The live oaks have outgrown their environment. They are out growing their pots and the logistics of repotting all the trees at this time is not feasible. Rather than repot them for future sale the owners have decided to donate a portion of the trees to property owners who can get them in the ground and care for them.

15. Q: What size are the Live Oaks up for adoption?

A: The live oaks vary in size, height, and weight. The trees range from 4ft – 12ft and weigh anywhere from 35lbs – 70lbs. All trees, no matter the size, are in 15 gallon pots.

16. Q: Will there be planting instructions provided?

A: We will be providing tree care booklets and informative flyers as well.

17. Q: How do I request a free Live Oak?

A: Email Jennifer Scales, ScalesJ@charleston-sc.gov with the following information: Request name, # of live oaks requested, general area they will be planted (West Ashley, James Island, Johns Island...), email address, and confirmation statement that you have looked at the area and feel there is enough space for a mature live oak.